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COMMUNITY NEWS

Father/son enjoy football season together

Charlie Marler and 8-year-old son Ryan "Buck" completed their third football season together over the Thanksgiving weekend.

Over the past three years this father-son, coach and player, duo and the 95 pound division CenterPoint Wolfpack football team out of Birmingham have been defeated only one time! Last year the Wolfpack played a whopping 19 games and only gave up a total of 12 points, outscoring their opponents 283 to 12. This season the Wolfpack played 14 games and gave up only 21 points making them undefeated for the last two years.

Charlie considers himself very lucky to have such an outstanding group of young athletes on the team, and Ryan holds down the starting positions of defensive tackle, offensive center and all specialty teams.

The CenterPoint Wolfpack has also claimed the title for the Snapper Bowl Championship, held in Panama City Beach, Florida, for the last two years.

The Snapper Bowl begins each year on Thanksgiving Day and continues through Saturday afternoon. Teams from all over the United States participate each year in the bowl game.



Charlie and Ryan "Buck" Marler

Charlie graduated Elba High in 1983 and is the son of Carol and Rue Marler.

Ryan says that football is his

favorite sport and the only thing he enjoys more is fishing with his papa at his catfish pond in Elba.

Riley awards funds to assist families of murder victims

Gov. Bob Riley has awarded \$80,275 to a Montgomery agency to help families of murder victims come to terms with their loss.

The Montgomery Angel House Counseling Center provides the service to residents in

31 central and south Alabama counties. The center, sponsored by Victims of Crime and Leniency operates a 24-hour assistance program.

"The trauma caused by the sudden loss of a loved one through a violent death can destroy lives and tear apart families," Riley said. "Angel House provides services to help families deal with the immediate shock of losing a family member and they continue to work with survivors to enable them to lead lives that are as normal as possible."

The program provides short and long-term grief counseling. Staff members also assist family

members with immediate tasks including funeral planning and notification, dealing with the media and any personal legal and insurance matters. Families are provided support in death investigations and court proceedings.

Counties served by Angel House are: Autauga, Barbour, Bullock, Butler Chambers, Chilton, Clarke, Coffee, Conecuh, Coosa, Covington, Crenshaw, Dale, Dallas, Elmore, Escambia, Geneva, Henry, Houston, Lee, Lowndes, Macon, Monroe, Montgomery, Perry, Pike, Randolph, Russell, Tallapoosa, Tuscaloosa and Wilcox.

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624 WASHINGTON AVE
MONTGOMERY AL 36130-0100

Annsley Padgett celebrates her fifth birthday

INSIDE

Ethan Lott bags his first deer

INSIDE

City of Elba holds annual Christmas Parade

The Elba Clipper

Volume 107, Number 27

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, December 18, 2003

1 Section, 14 Pages

Coffee County Sheriff's Department searching for church burglars

The Coffee County Sheriff's Department requests the help of local citizens in identifying the person(s) responsible for the recent rash of rural church burglaries within the county.

According to Coffee County Sheriff Ben Moates, there

have been six incidences reported since Sunday, Nov. 30, and almost all involved musical instruments and sound equipment being taken from the building. He said the church buildings also have suffered damage to doors and/or windows from forced entry by the burglars.

"All incidences are believed to have taken place during the nighttime hours with possibly the same group of associates involved," Moates said.

The rural churches reporting burglaries during this time frame have included:

* Zoar Community Church, located on Coffee County Road

331 - burglary reported Sunday, Nov. 30, with \$3,200 worth of instruments and sound equipment stolen.

* Jack Assembly of God parsonage, located on Coffee County Road 215 - burglary

reported Thursday, Dec. 11, with \$300 worth of household furnishings stolen and \$250 in damages to the building.

* Mount Vernon Assembly of God Church, located on Coffee County Road 330 - burglary reported Friday, Dec. 12, with \$1,000 in damages to the building.

* Coffee County Sheriff Ben Moates said.

* Wooten Chapel Church, located on Coffee County Road 514 - burglary reported Saturday, Dec. 13, with \$550 worth of instruments and sound equipment stolen.

* Holloway Tabernacle Assembly of God Church, located on Coffee County Road 639 - burglary reported Sunday, Dec. 14, with \$658.76 worth of

electronic equipment and U.S. currency stolen.

* Faith Chapel Community Church, located on Coffee County Road 437 - burglary reported Monday, Dec. 15, with \$4,690 worth of instruments and sound equipment stolen and \$1,200 in damages to the building.

ing. The public is encouraged to be aware not only of this criminal activity in the rural churches but also the vulnerability of the home in the county during the holiday season," Moates said. "Be aware of any unusual or suspicious activity or suspi-

cious person(s) around the homes, churches and rural businesses."

He said any person having knowledge of these recent burglaries or of any person having any of the musical instruments and/or sound equipment taken from these churches should call

the Coffee County Sheriff's Department at 894-5535, the Elba Police Department at 897-2555 or another local law enforcement agency.

Moates also encourages citizens to report any and all suspicious activity to their local law enforcement agency.

Elba's new animal control shelter nearing completion

by Bethany Dye

With construction of the new city animal shelter well under way, the animal control department expects to soon be settling into its new facility.

"We're excited," animal control officer George Homyak said. "I think it's a stepping stone for animal control."

Animal control's headquarters had to be moved because the former location was in the way of construction of the new Toledo Molding and Die plant.

The new shelter, located on Boswell Street across from the Elba work release facility, will have housing capacity for 21 dogs—eight more than the old facility, said Homyak.

Other features of the new facility will include automatic watering systems and electricity in each pen and larger pen areas,



he said. The shelter has an open-air design, but the insulated roof, heat lamps and chicken house curtains will help keep the dogs warm in cold weather.

One part of the new facility that Homyak said he was looking forward to having is an office.

"I've never had an office before," he said.

Homyak said the office will be used to store some supplies, such as dog food, and will have space for his desk, so those wanting to adopt animals can fill out paperwork.

Homyak, who designed and drew the plans for the new shelter, said the construction is about 90 percent complete, and the facility should be ready some time in January.

"It's slow going right now," said city building inspector and the project's coordinator Troy Gideon. "There's a lot of climbing up and down ladders, and the ladder has to be moved in and out of each cage."

He said construction began around August, and city employees have been providing most of the labor.

"The street department and the recreation department have been helping," Gideon said. "Just whoever has a few minutes to spare."

In fact, city employees have performed all the work on the facility except for the fencing and concrete, which were contracted out, said city clerk Wayne Grantham.

Grantham's estimate of the final cost is \$12,000, not including the city employees' labor.

"I don't know," Grantham said. "It may be less than that, but we're not through with it, and we haven't gathered all the

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Elba City Council meeting Council accepts fire chief's resignation letter

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council held two meetings on Tuesday evening, December 9th. This has become a December tradition as the city fathers strive to fulfill state laws requiring two monthly meetings.

In the first meeting the council gave final approval to the resolution supporting the Block Grant Float Loan for Dorsey Trailers. Mayor James Grimes explained that this loan supplements the previous economic development loan from the State of Alabama. There is no financial liability to the City. Dorsey Trailers posts the necessary securities to back up the low interest development loan.

Monthly bills totaling \$66,402.78 were approved for

payment. Police Chief R. W. Whitworth said the dog he has done great and earned his cost many times over.

During the second meeting the council gave final approval to an ordinance finalizing the municipal voting redistricting plan which recently received approval from the U. S. Justice Department. This redistricting plan will now be used in an future regular or special municipal elections.

Council members were given copies of the resignation of Larry Goodson as Chief of the Elba Volunteer Fire Department. They voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the firemen and named Danny

Former Elba D.A.R.E. officer devoted to public service

by Linda Hodge, Editor

As former Elba Elementary School D.A.R.E. officer Dean Blair delivered the guest speaker's inspirational speech Friday, Dec. 12, during the sixth grade D.A.R.E. graduation ceremony at the elementary school, he described the opportunity as his

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Area Happenings

THE ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH will have a Live Nativity on December 19, 30 & 31 on the vacant lot next to the church.

THE COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION will hold its bi-monthly meeting Monday, Dec. 22, 9 a.m., in the community room of the county complex in New Brandon.

THE TOWN OF NEW BRIDGETON OFFICES will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 24, and Thursday, Dec. 25, in observance of the Christmas holiday. Also, the offices will be closed on Thursday, Jan. 1, in observance of New Year's Day.

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EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
With Ferrin Cox

Following the U. S. Supreme Court decision overturning a Texas law which criminalized sodomy a Utah man's lawyer is using the ruling to convince the Utah Supreme Court that his client's conviction on bigamy should be overturned because of the Texas decision. They are arguing that his practice of polygamy is not any business of the state government, in other words he can have as many wives as he wants - legally. Supreme Court Justice Scalia's argued in his dissent "State laws against bigamy, same-sex marriage, adult incest, prostitution, masturbation, adultery, fornication, bestiality, and obscenity are... sustainable only in light of Bowers' validation of laws based upon moral choices. Every single one of these laws is called into question by today's decision." His words are ringing true already.

Mayor James Grimes said this week that he has worked out an agreement with the Army Corp of Engineers for some aid on with the levee rehab. Three things were mentioned as being officially approved. 1) A 2 1/2 mile paved walking trail will be constructed on the levee. It will stretch from the Troy Highway around to the Kinston Highway. 2) Purchase of some property in the old Beaver Dam Creek area (inside the levee) to establish and maintain a catch basin for rain water which falls inside the levee. This is water which can be kicked over the levee with the massive flood pump system already in operation off Plant Avenue. 3) A second flood pump system to be installed at the catch basin being constructed behind the old high school (actually between the school building and the stadium). This will be a smaller pumping system than the Plant Avenue pump. Funding will come as part of the levee rehab project. James was all smiles telling of these projects being approved. He has been plugging for any or all of them a long time.

We got to Sunday School last Sunday morning and all the conversations were on the capture of the bad guy of Iraq - Saddam Hussein. Since our TV hadn't been on all morning, it was just listen, 'cause this was all fresh news to our ears. However, there have been plenty of reruns, reshapes, etc. on the tube, in the newspapers and probably in the magazines and no longer can anyone feel left behind. If there was any surprise in this corner, it was over the way the man was living prior to being captured. With all the money he had, and more he probably had stashed in foreign banks, the expectation would have been for him to be living somewhere in the same lifestyle he had become acclimated to during his years of ruthless leadership. Again, that shows just how little we know about anything.

Saddam gave up without a fight, quite differently than he had been urging all his followers to do. But that brings us back to well established opinions of all this suicide bombing stuff. It is amazing that the radical leaders urge fired up followers to strap bombs on themselves "for the cause" and instant trips to heaven, yet these real smart leaders never get around to making that instant trip themselves! One day some of these young zealots are going to start asking that question and the world will experience a sudden drop in the number of these suicide bombings. Hopefully that will come sooner rather than later.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, EMS dispatched to 1493 County Rd. 147 (10:06 a.m.); Breaking and entering reported at the Brunson Mini-Storage buildings (12:56 p.m.).

THURSDAY, DEC. 11 - River stage - 7.33 feet (6:38 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence at Kendrick Apartments (7:59 a.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 1855 Hickman Ave. (2:35 p.m.).

FRIDAY, DEC. 12 - River stage - 6.94 feet (7:05 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 10795 Hwy. 87 S. (11:59 p.m.).

SATURDAY, DEC. 13 - River stage - 6.73 feet (6:01 a.m.); Routine activity.

SUNDAY, DEC. 14 - Elba Fire Department dispatched to a house fire on Teresa St. (11:23 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to standby at the house fire on Teresa St. (11:30 a.m.); Fight in progress reported at 1109 Neil Grantham Dr. (2:26 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 3475 County Rd. 248 (3:34 a.m.); River stage - 6.03 feet

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Heddy J. Cox - BUSINESS MANAGER

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$19 per year
6 Months - \$10, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$21 per year - including tax
6 months - \$11
Outside Alabama - \$24 per year - 6 months - \$13

Can't get flu vaccine...Ask about the pneumonia shot

What can you do if you can't find any flu vaccine?

Ask your doctor about the pneumonia shot. This vaccine may help reduce the chances of serious complications found with flu and pneumonia. Alabama has a quarter of a million senior adults not covered by this potentially life-saving vaccination.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends the pneumonia shot, also known as the Pneumovax vaccine, for those at high risk and those age 65 and older with one repeat (or two shots in a lifetime). The pneumonia shot is also recommended for older adults who have already had a flu shot.

For more information call Alabama Quality Assurance Foundation (AQAF) at (800) 760-1624, option 7 or the CDC Immunization Information Hotline (800) 243-7889.

We offer the best prices and protection for you.

As an independent Agency, we can tailor the best insurance protection at competitive prices. We represent only the finest insurance companies, including Auto-Owners Insurance Company, which has truly earned the reputation as The "No Problem" People. Ask us about the many other advantages of doing business with an independent insurance agency.

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Life Home Car Business
The "No Problem" People
Southeast Insurance & Real Estate, Inc.
P.O. Box 560 • Elba, AL
(334) 897-3431

Obituaries

DALLAS JUNIOR KILPATRICK

Mr. Dallas Junior Kilpatrick, age 74, of New Brockton, Ala., died Dec. 15, 2003 at his residence in New Brockton.

Funeral services will be held at Hayes Funeral Home Chapel on Thursday, Dec. 18, at 11 a.m. with Rev. Betty Sue Morris and Rev. Talmadge Butler officiating. Burial will follow in the Bethlehem Baptist Church Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directing.

Survivors include his wife, Willie Jean Kilpatrick, New Brockton; four sons: Junior Kilpatrick, Malone, Fla.; Jimmy Kilpatrick, Enterprise, Greg Kilpatrick, Chancellorsville, Va.; Ronnie Kilpatrick, New Brockton; five daughters: Audrey Capps, Enterprise, Melissa McWaters, Brundidge, Sue Hodge, Opp, Teresa Oakes, Banks, Tammy English, Troy; one sister: Ollie Morris, Enterprise; 18 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

BETTY JEAN ENGLISH

Ms. Betty Jean English, age 57, died Dec. 6, 2003.

Funeral services were held Dec. 12, 2003 at Harris Temple Church of God in Christ in Elba with Elder W.K. Ellison officiating.

Survivors include one brother, William L. English Jr., Elba; one sister: Suise English, N.Y.; and several other relatives and friends.

WILLIAM JESSIE WARREN

Mr. William Jessie (Lucky) Warren, age 43, died Dec. 6, 2003 at Vanderbilt Medical Center, Nashville, Tenn. after an extended illness.

Funeral services were held Dec. 11, 2003 at Greater New Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Elba with Rev. W.L. Peterson officiating. Burial followed at

Evergreen Cemetery in Elba with Coleman Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include his fiancée: Veronica; two daughters: MaKayle Ann Warren, Nashville, Tenn.; Lakerisha M. Warren, Madison, Tenn.; five sisters: Margaret Henderson, Opp, Ala.; Mary Florence (Elder L.J. Walker), Luverne, Ala.; Ruthie Mae (Jimmie Frank) Hill, Chancellorsville, Ala.; Mary Jean Warren, Elba; Mary Helen Warren, Goshen, Ala.; six brothers: Eugene Warren, Enterprise, John Warren, Mobile, Ala.; Huey Lee (Katherine) Warren, Hudson, N.Y.; Charles Warren Jr., Elba; Johnson Warren, Dothan, Ala.; and Billy Faye Warren, Geneva, Ala.

JOHNNIE BELL MURRAY

Mr. Johnnie Bell Murray, age 100, formerly of Panama City, Fla., died Nov. 21, 2003 in Beaumont, Texas.

Funeral services were held Nov. 30, 2003 at Mercy Funeral Home Chapel in Beaumont, Texas.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Harry Murray, Jr., son, Willie S. Hicks; both parents, Watt and Annie Bell Broxton-Lee; four sisters: Winnie Moore, Carrie Coleman, Lillian Lawrence and Claudine Tyree; and two brothers, Willie Sam Lee and Watt Lee.

Survivors include two granddaughters, three great-grandchildren, and several other relatives and friends.

Survivors include one brother, William L. English Jr., Elba; one sister: Suise English, N.Y.; and several other relatives and friends.

JOHN HOWARD LEE

Mr. John Howard Lee, age 62, died Dec. 4, 2003.

Funeral services were held Dec. 12, 2003 at Elba Baptist Church with Rev. Lovell Martin officiating.

Mr. Lee was preceded in death by his parents, Jimmy Lewis and Annie Lou Lewis; and a sister, Eloise Lee.

WANDA J. CARROLL

Ms. Wanda J. Carroll, age 60, of Alexander, City, Ala., died Dec. 9, 2003 at Russell Medical Center.

Graveside services were held Dec. 10, 2003 at Hebrew Baptist Church with Rev. Maxwell Barnes officiating.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Tullis and Willie Mae Carroll.

COLEMAN FUNERAL HOME

and
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IT HAPPENED THIS WEEK!



Queen Victoria and her husband Prince Albert loved celebrating Christmas. Albert, who was a German prince by birth, brought with him to England the tradition of decorating a tree at Christmas. In 1848, the London Illustrated News carried a picture of the Royal Family gathered around their Christmas tree, and decorated trees quickly became a popular part of Victorian Christmases.

Americans ignored Christmas until the middle of the eighteenth century. The Puritans disliked the holiday so much that they banned its celebration from 1659 until 1680. As Christmas celebrations once again took root in Victorian England, they naturally found their way to America. By the late nineteenth century, Christmas was a time for celebration on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. The question remains: If Dickens not written A Christmas Carol, would we still be celebrating Christmas? To find out more about Christmas and Charles Dickens, take The Web Journey.

Next Week: When opposing soldiers laid down their guns to exchange gifts, sing carols, and play soccer.

Go to:
<http://spencerlib.ku.edu/exhibits/greatesthits/content.htm>

Alabama FAST FACT

Charles Dickens' most enduring and widely recognized work is a story he penned in only six weeks. In early October 1843, Dickens and his family were under increasing financial strain. His new novel was not meeting his publishers' sales

The Man Who Saved Christmas

THE QUESTION REMAINS:
Had Dickens not written A Christmas Carol, would we still be celebrating Christmas?



Charles Dickens reading A Christmas Carol. Courtesy of Tishner and Fels, 1988 through Mount Royal College.

Go to:
<http://www.historychannel.com/exhibits/holidays/mean.html>

Charles Dickens

Charles Dickens' most enduring and widely recognized work is a story he penned in only six weeks. In early October 1843, Dickens and his family were under increasing financial strain. His new novel was not meeting his publishers' sales

expectations, and the company was pressing him to begin repaying earlier advances.

To meet these demands, Dickens quickly wrote and self-published A Christmas Carol. Released a week before Christmas, it became an instant bestseller with the first printing of 6,000 copies selling out in a few days. Since then millions more have read or heard the tale of Ebenezer Scrooge, seen it performed as a play, or watched it as a movie.

Near the beginning of the story, Scrooge's nephew greets his uncle with a cheerful Merry Christmas. This provoked a grumpy "Bah, Humbug!" from Scrooge. Never before had anyone put Merry and Christmas together as a phrase. The world loved it and it quickly became a universally used Christmas greeting.

When A Christmas Carol first appeared, the celebrations that had surrounded Christmas in the 1700s had nearly vanished. The story was so popular that it became a driving force behind the revival of Christmas celebrations throughout the British Empire and North America.

Go to:
<http://www.historychannel.com/exhibits/holidays/mean.html>

Web Address:
<http://www.historychannel.com/exhibits/holidays/mean.html>

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CITY OF ELBA
ON THE CLIPPER

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

On Sat., Nov. 29, 2003, a small flame was lit in South Alabama — it was part of a flame that was lit in Montgomery, Al., in the summer of 2003 when Judge Roy Moore was told by federal judge Myron Thompson that he could not "acknowledge" God. In an instant and with such audacity, our rights as citizens were dismissed.

However, just as Congress was able to pass a law against telephone solicitations, the same can be done and Congress pass a law so that the judicial system cannot touch the display of the Ten Commandments. But we must unite together and urge Congress (area code 202/224-3121) to support such a move.

Remember the Preamble to our State Constitution: "We, the people of the State of Alabama, in order to establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, and secure the blessing of liberty to ourselves and our posterity,

This was an uplifting rally with speakers that challenged those present with the truth. Between 30 to 40 area pastors stood up to be counted along with almost 500 people at the Coffee County Farm Center in New Brockton that Saturday night. Mr. Dwight Adams announced the proceedings and a special song was played by Mr. Dan Fraley and his group about this issue. It was indeed a

Please See LTR., Page 11



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SCHOOLS

Elementary school holds D.A.R.E. graduation for sixth graders

by Meredith English

All around the world families, friends, sons, daughters, sisters, and brothers endure the awful and horrific effects that illegal drugs can have on a person. Luckily in our close-knit community we are privileged enough to have our 11 and 12-year-old friends and family

members involved in a nationwide DARE program. DARE stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education. One of Elba's own law-abiding citizens, Officer Michael Adkinson, teaches the sixth grade students several things regarding illegal drugs.

Officer Adkinson teaches the pre-teens how to stand up for oneself and "Just Say No!" He also informs the students on how to react, or the proper actions to take, when a loved one is involved in illegal drugs. This day in age more and more people become the victims of this awful problem. Who knows what leads people to become this kind of victim. It might be an emotional disorder, too much stress, or just plain boredom. Either way this problem is becoming more than just an annoyance.

People actually die because of these homemade or homegrown drugs. They are illegal for a rea-



D.A.R.E. Essay winners were (from left) Brandon Byrd, Taylor Cotton and Emily Miller. They are pictured with D.A.R.E. officer Michael Adkinson (right).

son. Because Officer Adkinson takes his time to teach our future generations the precautions to becoming a drug addict, Elba's future is looking a little brighter. Thanks Officer Michael Adkinson.

On Friday, Dec. 12, the sixth grade class of 2004 graduated from Officer Adkinson's DARE program. To this class, congratulations and good luck!

The D.A.R.E. Student of the Year award went to Brianna Rogers.



The 2003-04 Elba Elementary School sixth grade D.A.R.E. graduating class

Tiger Tales

Editors:
Brittany Cooper
& Alex Allen

Co-Op Spotlight

by Christy Eubanks



This week's Co-Op Spotlight features Michelle Carpenter.

Michelle is the 17-year-old daughter of David and Patricia Carpenter. She is currently employed at National Security.

Michelle is quite involved at school. She takes part in activities such as VICA, Mu Alpha Theta and Spanish Club. She is the treasurer of the Spanish Club as well as senior class treasurer.

Outside of school, she is a member of Rocky Head Missionary Baptist church where she participates in the choir. She also enjoys shopping, going to the movies, spending time with family and friends, dancing and going to the beach. Congratulations, Michelle, on being this week's Co-Op Spotlight!

Only
7 Days
Until
Christmas



Happy
Holidays!!!

E.E.S. students enjoy Christmas around the world

by Anna Harrison

The Elba Elementary School teachers are decorating their classrooms as different countries and showing the students how other countries celebrate Christmas.

The student's will be traveling to see Christmas in Mexico, Sweden, England, India, Holland, Italy, Hong Kong and Japan. They will also be making lots of crafts for the holiday season.

This is a great project, and it's a great way to expose the kids to new ideas.

**SUPPORT
OUR YOUTH,
SCHOOLS
AND
EDUCATION!!!**

Students selected for TSU Middle School Band

by Mary Katherine Head

Recently, some students from Elba High School were selected for the Troy State University Middle School Band.

The students that applied for the band were required to be in grades seventh through ninth and had to send in applications.

Those chosen were selected based upon their musical

accomplishments and a director's recommendation and were as follows: Katie Cash, Lauren McClung, Tierney Starks, Robin Hudson, Drew Ellis, Kayla Miller, and Jamison Baker.

These young musicians traveled to Troy State Dec. 4, 5, and 6. When they arrived on Thursday, the students tried out for the three different bands: Silver, Crimson, and Gold.



Elba students selected for the TSU Middle School Band

The silver and crimson bands were equal, and the gold band was the top band. Several of the students from EHS made the gold band.

They tried out for the chairs in these bands at this time as well. During the time they were there, the students rehearsed different pieces of music and then played in a concert on Saturday. They also had the opportunity to see other bands play. The students involved in this had a really good time.

Congratulations to Katie, Lauren, Tierney, Robin, Drew, Kayla, and Jamison for being selected to the TSU Middle School Band!

2003-04 Elba High School Jazz Ensemble selected

by Katie Driggers

This year's jazz ensemble has recently been selected and plans are to play at some basketball games as well as many other events.

Director Jeff Ellis said, "This year's ensemble is young, but very excited about playing jazz music."

The member's of the jazz ensemble are: Alto Saxophone - Casey Medlock, Samuel Pulliam, Tatiana Parker and Griffen Cash; Tenor Saxophone - Michelle Weston; Baritone Saxophone - Brian Blair; Trumpet - Elizabeth Weeks, Kayla Byrd, Nicole Frost and Drew Ellis; Low Brass -

EHS Student Spotlight

by Karrie Copeland

This week's Student Spotlight features Victoria Brooks.

Tori is the 15-year-old daughter of Comer Ray and Tina Brooks, and she is a sophomore at Elba High School.

Tori is involved in many activities including: Sr. Beta, Mu Alpha Theta, Spanish Club, Varsity Cheerleading, Danceline and Concert Band. Outside of school, she enjoys shopping, dancing, fishing, going to the beach, gymnastics, hanging out with friends and her boyfriend, Hunter.

Congratulations to Katie, Lauren, Tierney, Robin, Drew, Kayla, and Jamison for being selected to the TSU Middle School Band!

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Victoria "Tori" Brooks
Congratulations Tori and keep up the good work.



EHS Jazz Ensemble practices for upcoming events

Brandon Ray, Jamison Baker, Williams; Keyboard - Jarod Donnie Stinson and Justin Watkins; Trap Set - Justin Bianna Bailey.



PICTURE OF THE WEEK (by Brittany Cooper)...Just a lil' bling bling to catch the lady's eye.

TSU gets SACS accreditation reaffirmation

The Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) recently announced the reaffirmation of accreditation of Troy State University during its annual meeting in Nashville, Tenn. The announcement comes on the heels of a three-year process by the university that included self study and peer review.

Troy State University was originally accredited by SACS in 1934.

SCHOOLS

Elementary SGA officers sworn in at installation ceremony

The Kinston Elementary School SGA installation ceremony was held Monday, Oct. 20, at 8:30 a.m. in the library.

Mrs. Jennelle Glass, SGA sponsor, began the ceremony by swearing in Bethany Holley as this year's president.

Once sworn in, the new president took over the duty of swearing in the remaining officers.

Kit Johnson was sworn in as vice president. Marika Whitehurst as parliamentarian, Brittany Smith as secretary, Erin Shaw as treasurer and Amber Smith as reporter.



Elementary SGA officers (from left): Bethany Holley, Kit Johnson, Marika Whitehurst, Brittany Smith, Erin Shaw and Amber Smith.

Kinston High School honors veterans with program

Kinston High School held its annual Veterans' Day program on Monday, Nov. 10, at 9 a.m.

The Kinston High School Student Government Association (SGA), under the leadership of Mrs. Lisa Diebel and Mrs. Jennifer Sanders, sponsored the program.

Veterans from Kinston, as well as other surrounding communities, were invited to attend the program and a reception that immediately followed. The Veterans in attendance represented World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom and

peacetime veterans.

The program opened as Mr. Mark Coole, principal, welcomed all guests. The posting of colors by the Daleville High School ROTC was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Jeremy Driver and the singing of the Star Spangled Banner by Kasie Kelley.

Opening remarks were given by SGA president Megan Piland. Jeremy Driver, SGA vice-president, recognized the veterans in attendance. The veterans were thanked for their steadfast service that gave, and still gives today, peace and prosperity to the nation.

Special guest speakers were Mr. Jay Mikel, who was inspiring as he paid tribute to his father and father-in-law's military service, and Mr. Greg Hatway, who enlightened the audience with an interesting PowerPoint presentation.

Special guest soloists were Mrs. Janie Wiggins who sang Fallen Not Forgotten and Mr. Billy Chambliss who sang I Love America.

Poems were read by Tiffany Wilson, SGA secretary, and Courtney Farris, senior representative.



Kinston High School FBLA officers were elected for the school year 2003-04. They are as follows: Courtney Farris, historian; Shae Farris, historian; Crystal Weeks, reporter; Ashley Rushing, treasurer; Kasie Kelley, secretary; Jeremy Driver, president; and Jonathan Hatway, vice president.

Class News

The KHS Junior Class has car tags on sale for \$15. The prom theme they selected for this year is Mardi Gras.

FFA News

It's no surprise if you see students at Kinston High School eating fruit around this time of year. The Future Farmers of America just finished its annual fruit sales by delivering boxes of fruit.

Kinston's chapter sold 696 boxes of fruit this year making the fund raising event a great success.

**SUPPORT
OUR YOUTH,
EDUCATION
AND
SCHOOLS!**

AJAS club elects officers for 2003-04 school year

The Kinston chapter of the Alabama Junior Academy of Science held its first meeting Sept. 11, 2003. The primary reason for the meeting was to elect officers for the 2003-04 school year.

This year's officers are: J.T. Wiggins, president; Jonathan Hatway, vice president; Courtney Farris, secretary; and Jeremy Driver, reporter. The sponsor is Pam Phillips.

The club held another meeting on Thursday, Nov. 20, and Mrs. Phillips did many physics related experiments. Some of the experiments were done solely by Mrs. Phillips while others required student participation.



AJAS officers include (from left): J.T. Wiggins, Megan Piland, Jeremy Driver, Courtney Farris and Jonathan Hatway.

Huntingdon announces sesquicentennial events planned for Spring Semester '04

Huntingdon College, founded in 1854, invites the community to "Celebrate the Past, Treasure the Future" by joining the College at these Sesquicentennial events in the spring of 2004:

January
"La Traviata," written in 1854, Huntingdon's founding year, and presented by the Huntingdon College Opera Theater, January 17, 23, & 24 at 7:30 p.m. and January 18 at 2:30 p.m.; Huntingdon College Cloverdale Theater; Adults \$8, Students/Seniors \$5, Huntingdon \$2; Reservations (334) 833-4457

Huntingdon College
Lecture Series/Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation presents Dr. Dan T. Carter, Remembering Our Past: How It Can Help Us Face Our Future; Thursday, January 22, 7:30 p.m.; Ligon Chapel, Flowers Hall; free and open to the public.

A Celebration of Huntingdon Athletics: Men's and Women's Basketball, Men's Golf; Saturday, January 31, 1:00 p.m. Lady Hawks, 3:00 p.m. Hawks, Delchamps Student Center Gymnasium; Tickets Adults \$3, Students \$2, free for ages 12 and under.

February
Huntingdon College Sesquicentennial Founders Day Celebration and Stallworth Lecture Series present The Reverend Dr. Greg Jones, dean, Duke Divinity School, "Mind and Spirit: The Unique Mission of the Church-Related Liberal Arts College," Friday, February 13, 11:00 a.m.; Ligon Chapel, Flowers Hall; free and open to the public. At this event, Huntingdon will celebrate 150 years of service to The United Methodist Church.

A Celebration of Huntingdon Athletics: Baseball, Softball, and Tennis; Saturday, February 28, 1:00 p.m. Baseball and Softball, 3:15 p.m. Tennis; Huntingdon ball fields and tennis courts; Tickets Adults \$3, Students \$2, free for ages 12 and under.

Huntingdon College

CHRISTMAS

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FEBRUARY 1, 2004

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CITY OF ELBA
WAYNE GRANTHAM
CITY CLERK

School and Club Reminders:

- Juniors who need to pay in order to attend the prom should pay by Thursday, Dec. 18.
- Seniors who need to pay in order to attend the prom should pay by Tuesday, Jan. 6.
- VICA members who want a t-shirt, sign up in Mr. Lawford's room. Cost is \$9.25 and \$10.25 (XL or larger).

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LBW
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SPRING REGISTRATION

Tuesday, January 6, 2004
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Classes Begin January 7, 2004

Late Registration & Drop/Add • January 7-12, 2004

Andalusia/Greenville Campus (334) 222-6591 ext. 2271
MacArthur Campus (334) 493-3573 ext. 5333

SPORTS

Views from....

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

I have been told that next year I will have to join in and help decorate the Christmas tree, but so far this year the girls have done a good job keeping the lights blinking and all they have said is that I need to do my part by adding some presents. I do know what everyone wants and have plans to take a shopping trip real soon. However, for now I am happy just admiring the decorations and will make my additions real soon....I promise!

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH....

*** The Elba Tigers competed in the Andalusia Christmas Tournament last week and posted two wins before falling in the finals and brought home the second place trophy in the eight-team event. The Tigers looked good in rolling to wins over Pleasant Home and Andalusia, but never got on track in the title game and in the end got blown out by Enterprise. Elba was very impressive on defense and really hustled all over the court in all three games, but in the loss to the 6A Wildcats seemed afraid to shoot the ball on offense and had long scoreless streaks that helped lead to the lopsided loss. The Elba players work too hard on the defensive end to lose, and maybe soon they will gain some confidence on offense and the result will be a complete team that can win no matter the opposition.

*** The Elba Lady Tigers will head up to Zion Chapel this weekend to compete in the Zion Chapel Christmas Tournament and I know Coach Leroy Canley will be hoping his girls can repeat their success in recent years at the annual event. The Lady Tigers placed second in the tournament in 1999, but have won it three straight years and will be looking to add a fourth championship trophy this weekend. While the Elba girls may not be as good in years past and have struggled in early-season play, they should be at least a co-favorite with Arton to bring home the top prize.

*** I was very surprised last week to read that long time New Brockton coach Trent Trawick had resigned to accept a coaching position at Dauphin Junior High, in Enterprise. Coach Trawick had coached softball and volleyball at New Brockton for eleven years, and for the past three years had also been the school's athletic director. He led the Lady Gamecocks to enormous success in softball, including two trips to the state tournament, and also kept the New Brockton girls atop the volleyball polls in South Alabama. I know Coach Trawick is excited about his new position and the chance of coaching in his home town, but I also know he has been a huge factor in the overall success of the entire athletic program at New Brockton High School for over a decade, and will be missed.

*** If anyone ever came out smelling like a rose after being on the verge of being fired it has to be Auburn's Tommy Tuberville. Just a few weeks ago the Auburn coach was on the way out and coaching replacements were already being interviewed, and all of the sudden his Tigers beat Alabama and now he gets a new contract and may very well be even more powerful than the embattled Auburn president. The funny thing is that many Auburn fans still don't like or support the Auburn coach, and the contract extension only made their hostility a little less merry.

*** In closing....all area basketball fans should get the chance to see plenty of high school action in the coming weeks as tournaments are scheduled all across South Alabama. This weekend there will be four boys and four girls teams competing up at Zion Chapel, while next week four girls teams will be hitting the court down in Samson, and the days after Christmas sixteen boys teams will play in the Dothan Progress Tournament, in Dothan, while eight boys and eight girls teams will also compete in Red Level. If you like basketball there is no way you will get bored in the weeks to come.

Spotlight on the....
OUTDOORS

JEROD SIMMONS bagged this 7-point buck while on a recent hunting trip.



ETHAN LOTT, age 8, killed his first deer while hunting with his brother and his Dad. He is the son of Carl and Renee Lott, of Victoria.

In Junior High basketball

7th grade Tigers up record to 8-2

The Elba 7th grade Tigers hit the court three times in recent basketball action and claimed two wins to improve their record to 8-2.

Following are highlights of all three games:

ELBA 45
GENEVA 43

Jordan McBride scored six points in overtime to spark the Elba Tigers to an exciting 45-43 win over the Geneva Panthers, in Geneva. The Tigers rallied from a 20-15 halftime deficit to pull even at 37-37 by the end of regulation, then outscored the Panthers 8-6 in the extra period to claim the win. Johnny Stoudemire scored 12 points to lead Elba, while Trey Belcher and Jordan McBride both added 10 points.

Elba (45): Respress 7, Phillips 4, Mitchell 2, Belcher 10, McBride 10, Stoudemire 12.
Geneva (43): Adams 5, Hill 8, Soles 9, Frazier 12, Daniels 2, Flowers 6.

ANDY 40
ELBA 29

The Elba Tigers fell behind early and never recovered in a 40-29 loss to the Andalusia Bulldogs, in Andalusia. The Tigers fell behind 15-8 in the opening stanza, trailed 26-16 at the half and never threatened in losing to the Bulldogs for the second time this season. Keenan Phillips scored 8 points and Jordan McBride added 7 to lead Elba.

Andy (40): Anderson 2, Veasey 1, Busch 8, James 2, Woods 4, Cowan 7, Johnson 16.
Elba (29): Respress 4, Phillips 8, Mitchell 4, Hall 3, McBride 7, Stoudemire 3.

ELBA 42
OPP 20

The Elba Tigers made it look easy last week with a big 42-20 win over the Opp Bobcats, in Elba. The Tigers opened up a 14-3 lead after one quarter of play, extended their lead to 38-16 by the end of the third quarter, and cruised in with the easy win at home. Johnny Stoudemire and Trey Belcher both scored 11 points to lead Elba.

Elba (42): Hall 4, Tillis 8, Bullard 4, Belcher 11, Dorsey 4, Stoudemire 11.
Opp (20): Wade 1, Anderson 4, Sherwood 1, Holloway 4, Scofield 2, Barfield 2, Phillips 2, Christian 2, Wyatt 2.

Elba Lady Tigers to compete in ZC cage tournament

The Elba Lady Tigers will be looking to make an addition to their trophy case later this week when they travel to Zion Chapel High School to compete in the Zion Chapel Christmas Tournament.

The four-team event will tip-off on Friday, December 19, with the Elba Lady Tigers meeting the Kinston Lady Bulldogs, at 4:00, to be followed at 7:00 with the game between the Zion Chapel Lady Rebels and the Arton Lady Cats. The consolation game will be played on Saturday, December 20, at 2:00, while the championship game will tip-off at 5:00.

"We have had some success at the Zion Chapel tournament and always look forward to playing in the event," said Coach Leroy Canley. "We will have a real fight on our hands in the opening round against Kinston, and then will also face a tough opponent in the next game, no matter which team we face. Our girls work hard and really want to play well and win, and maybe this tournament will be the start of something good."

Tournament Schedule

Friday, December 19
4:00 - Elba vs. Kinston
7:00 - Zion Chapel vs. Arton

Saturday, December 20
2:00 - Consolation Game
5:00 - Championship Game



JR. CHEERLEADERS ARE ALL SMILES....The Elba Junior High cheerleaders had a reason to smile last week as the 7th grade Tigers claimed three wins and the 8th grade Tigers won two games in basketball action.

In 8th grade action

Elba Tigers win two, lose two

The Elba Junior High Tigers took to the hardwood four times in recent basketball action and claimed two wins to move their record to 6-4.

Following are highlights of recent action:

GENEVA 33
ELBA 16

The Elba Tigers fell behind early and never recovered in a 33-16 loss to Geneva, in Geneva. The Tigers trailed only 14-10 at the half, but saw Geneva open up a 26-12 lead in the third quarter and never threatened in taking the loss. Jordan Bryant scored 4 points to lead Elba.

Geneva (33): Shoemaker 7, Stacy 2, R. Daniels 10, Simon 5, D. Daniels 3, Simmons 6.
Elba (16): Martin 2, Reynolds 3, Gibson 2, Bryant 4, Morrow 1, Caldwell 2, McCormick 2.

ELBA 49
ARITON 29

The Elba Junior High Lady Tigers took the court four times over the past two weeks and claimed one win to see their record slip to 5-6 on the season. Following are highlights of the four games:

GENEVA 41
ELBA 8

The Elba Lady Tigers scored only two points over the final three quarters in a lopsided 41-8 loss to Geneva, in Geneva. Elba trailed only 10-6 after one quarter, but scored only one basket over the final three quarters of play and took the loss. Krystan Parker scored 6 points to lead Elba.

Geneva (41): Broxton 6, Scott 12, Coleman 6, Pryor 9, Hornsby 4, Peek 2, Fikes 2.
Elba (8): Parker 6, Carpenter 2.

ELBA 28
ARITON 16

The Elba Lady Tigers used a

Caldwell scored 6 points to lead Elba.

Andy (40): Watson 8, Godwin 2, Jones 3, Johnson 2, Johnson 2, Rainer 8, Berry 12, Hogg 3.

Elba (22): Harrelson 2, Rhoades 4, Martin 2, Reynolds 2, Bryant 4, Caldwell 6, McCormick 2, McBride 1.

Arton (29): Deal 8, Stevens 11, Shipman 4, Edmonds 6.

ANDY 40
ELBA 22

The Elba Tigers fell behind early and never recovered in a 40-22 loss to the Andalusia Bulldogs, in Andalusia. The Tigers trailed 17-3 after one quarter and never threatened in taking the road loss. Randall

Drop three of four games
Junior High Lady Tigers struggle on court

The Elba Junior High Lady Tigers took the court four times over the past two weeks and claimed one win to see their record slip to 5-6 on the season.

Following are highlights of the four games:

GENEVA 41
ELBA 8

The Elba Lady Tigers scored only two points in the second half in a 42-15 loss to the Opp Bobcats, in Elba. The Lady Tigers trailed only 14-8 after one quarter, but were outscored 28-7 over the next three quarters and took the big home loss. Krystan Parker scored 11 points to lead Elba.

Opp (42): Rhymes 6, Drew 4, Osborn 2, Henderson 7, Ellison 2, Smith 3, Stephens 12, Matthews 6.
Elba (15): Caldwell 2, Carpenter 2, Parker 11.

ELBA 15
OPP 42

The Elba Lady Tigers scored only two points in the second half in a 42-15 loss to the Opp Bobcats, in Elba. The Lady Tigers trailed only 14-8 after one quarter, but were outscored 28-7 over the next three quarters and took the big home loss. Krystan Parker scored 11 points to lead Elba.

Opp (42): Rhymes 6, Drew 4, Osborn 2, Henderson 7, Ellison 2, Smith 3, Stephens 12, Matthews 6.
Elba (15): Caldwell 2, Carpenter 2, Parker 11.

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Elba (15): Caldwell 2, Carpenter 2, Parker 11.

SPORTS

In Andalusia Christmas Tournament

Elba Tigers settle for second

The Elba Tigers competed in the 37th annual Andalusia Christmas Tournament last week at Andalusia High School and posted two impressive wins before falling in the finals to place second in the eight-team event.

The Tigers opened the tournament with a 54-40 win over Pleasant Home and then stunned Andalusia 60-45 in the semifinals, but ran out of gas in the title match-up and lost to Enterprise 56-31.

"I know it didn't show it against Enterprise in the finals, but we have improved in recent games and we are beginning to understand what it takes to win," stated Elba's Coach Karl Bledsoe. "We played well against Pleasant Home and then had a big win over Andalusia, but missed out on some chances to stay close against Enterprise and then let the final score get out of hand late when we had to shoot threes in an attempt to catch-up. I was especially pleased at times with our defense and how well we got after folks. We made our opponents work to get the ball up the floor, and now must finish off the plan on defense by not allowing easy baskets inside. The improvement has been steady and I feel good about this team and the things we should be able to do as we continue to work hard and get better in all areas. We wanted to win the tournament, but we did get two big wins and maybe the loss will make us work even harder the next time we take the court."

Following are highlights of the Tigers' run in last week's tournament:

Elba (60): Gulley 4, Williams 4, Gavin 16, Curran 9, Reed 17, Logan 8, Rogers 2.

Andy (45): Wilson 4, Johnson 16, Evans 4, D. Wright 2, A. Wright 13, Cotton 6.

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Elba's lead grew to 34-16 early in the third quarter on a Quinton Gavin three-pointer and the Tigers held own to carry a 42-29 lead into the fourth quarter. Andalusia made a mild rally early in the final stanza and pulled within 49-39 with 4:11 left on the clock, but Marchello Reed sparked a 9-2 Elba run as the Tigers moved on top 58-41 and cruised in with the win.

Marchello Reed scored 17 points to lead Elba and Quinton Gavin added 16, while Josh Johnson led Andalusia with 16 points.

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SPORTS

Hunting is available for those with disabilities

Hunting has long been an Alabama tradition enjoyed by many, including those with physical disabilities. The

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) is fully committed to maximize the

ability of citizens with disabilities to enjoy the natural resources of the state. Alabama is the only state in the nation to establish a network of hunting areas designed to accommodate individuals with physical disabilities.

The ADCNR, in cooperation with other state and federal agencies, conservation groups, corporations and private individuals, has developed 13 hunting sites specifically for disabled hunters. The sites are part of Alabama's Hunting & Fishing Trail for People with Physical Disabilities.

To hunt at a designated site, the hunter must complete an application available from the Wildlife Section of the Department of Conservation and receive certification from a physician that he/she is physically disabled under the established medical guidelines. Hunting is by reservation only, so early reservations are recommended to ensure that each hunter obtains the site he/she wishes to hunt on.

Each participant must check in and out on the date reserved. All hunting is from specially designed shooting houses capable of sheltering two individuals. Participants on these hunts are encouraged to bring a non-hunting partner to assist with the activities. An individual may hunt on a given area only once every two weeks, but by visiting the various trail locations hunting multiple times each week is available.

No reservation is required for use of the target ranges or fishing lakes. All users of these facilities must be properly licensed and abide by regulations.

For more information on Alabama's Hunting & Fishing Trail for People with Physical Disabilities, visit the Department's website at www.outdooralabama.com. To obtain an application for the Hunting Trail, contact the Wildlife Section, 64 North Union Street, Montgomery, AL 36130 or call 334-242-3469.

Let's Go...

Outdoors with Ben

by Ben Norman, Sports Columnist

Fish the warming trend after the cold front for big bass

This past week has been cold with some pretty stiff winds. Fishing right after a cold front comes through is usually not the best time to fish. But as the weather warms up after a cold front has come through, fishing can be good.

Bass may be scattered all over a large impoundment or a farm pond from spring through fall, but they tend to congregate in relatively small areas during cold weather. They prefer to go deep and hang out where they have vertical or sharply sloped banks to get close to. This may be a rock wall, creek channel with a steep bank, dam area, or even the standpipe in a pond.

A typical 50-degree day in December after a cold front has subsided may find bass moving out of the deep water into relatively shallow water during the daytime. There is a good chance they will migrate back to deeper water that night and repeat the same pattern until the temperature make a substantial change again. The ideal place for winter bass fishing may be a spot of deep water that has an abrupt change to shallow water near it. This may be the steep bank along the side of a point or a submerged hump.

No matter where they are located, in shallow or deep water, bass are not going to be in the mood for a lot of bait chasing during very cold-water conditions. In conditions like this

the winter bass fisherman should slow down his retrieve speed as much as possible. Spinner baits should be retrieved at just enough speed to make the blades spin. The idea is to keep casting to the same area and keep the bait in front of a bass. Bait such as jigs or a jig and pig combination work well in winter, especially in clear water. If the water is deep and there is not too much cover to avoid hang-ups, the lighter line you can use, the better.

Plastic worms and other soft baits are excellent choices as it is almost impossible to fish them too slow. Either Texas or Carolina rigs worms with Carolina rigs worms with spinner baits work well in contact with the bottom work well.

While it is often hard to find a congregation of winter bass, once you do you can spend a lot of time fishing a relatively small area. Some bass fishermen estimate that during cold weather 80 or 90 percent of the bass will be hold up in 20 to 30 percent of a body of water. In this 20 to 30 percent area you are likely to find steep banks, creek mouths, submerged roads and bridges and points with steep drop-offs.

Warmer weather offers more comfortable fishing and more strikes. But some where in the depths of your favorite fishing hole lies aunker. Slow retrieves and persistence can put him in the boat.



ELBA'S WADDAIL NAMED "SUPER 12"...Elba sophomore Ashleigh Waddail was named last week to The Dothan Eagle's high school "Super 12" volleyball team in the big school division. Waddail led the Lady Tigers to the Regional Tournament this season and was one of six county athletes to receive the honor.

Six county players honored

Elba's Ashleigh Waddail named to "Super 12" prep volleyball team

The Dothan Eagle announced its annual "Super 12" selections for high school volleyball last weekend and included among the honorees were six players from Coffee County and one member of the county's coaching fraternity.

Elba's Ashleigh Waddail, a sophomore, was named to the "Big School" list as an outside hitter after compiling 207 kills, 30 aces and 10 blocks, and joined the Enterprise duo of Allison Jennings and Niketia Davis on the honored dozen. Jennings, a junior, recorded 274 kills, 78 blocks and 60 aces as a middle hitter/blocker, while Davis, a senior, recorded 79 kills, 44 aces and led the team in digs as an outside hitter.

Kinston's Coach Janie Wiggins was named the small school "Coach of the Year." Coach Wiggins led the Bulldogs to a 39-9 record and a runner-up finish at the Class 1A State Tournament in the 2003 season.

The complete list for both divisions is as follows:

BIG SCHOOL
Marina Coleman, Northview; Kourtney Cooper, Dothan; Allison Jennings, Enterprise; Niketia Davis, Enterprise; Katelyn Hart, Carroll; Misty Godwin, Ashford; Tabitha

Wambles on the squad; Marlowe, a senior, recorded 303 kills, 108 aces and 333 digs as an outside hitter for the Bulldogs. Sumblin, a senior, recorded 319 assists, 323 digs and 158 kills as a setter, while Wambles, also a senior, recorded 226 kills, 124 digs and 74 aces as a middle hitter.

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Jenkins, Geneva; Patricia Hughes, Geneva; Bridgette Ganous, Daleville; Reba Ross, Barbour County; Ashleigh Waddail, Elba. (Player of the Year) Shequita Holt, Ashford (Coach of the Year) Sherrell Hicks, Ashford

SMALL SCHOOL
Hailey Carmichael, Houston Academy; Erin Enslitt, Houston Academy; Randi Woods, G.W. Long; Ashley Wright, G.W. Long; Kaitlyn Revels, Samson; Ashley Houston, Houston County; Jessica Mitchell, Houston County; Lindsey Sanders, Antion; Hillary Sumblin, Kinston; Samantha Wambles, Kinston; Christine Spivey, Emmanuel Christian

(Player of the Year) Bridget Marlowe, Kinston (Coach of the Year) Janie Wiggins, Kinston

Troy State rodeo team concludes 2003 fall season

The Troy State rodeo team concluded its 2003 fall schedule on Saturday in Murray, Ky., with its best finish of the season. Overall, the TSU men's team finished in third-place, with 180 points, while the TSU women's team finished in a tie for fourth-place, with 20 total points.

The men's team was led by junior Lance Arviso. Arviso took first-place in the steer wrestling event and teamed with sophomore John Perrett for second-place in the team roping event.

The Lady Trojans were led by

senior Heather Jona in the breakaway roping event. Jones posted a time of 3.7 seconds in the long run and a time of 4.1 seconds in the short run. The 7.8 second average was good for a fourth-place overall.

Also making the short run for Troy State were sophomore's Melissa Revill and Chase Chapman. Revill made her second consecutive short run appearance in the goat-tying event following her long run time of 8.2 seconds. Chapman made his first short run appearance of the season in steer

wrestling after a long run time of 5.2 seconds. Neither was able to score points for the team, but both finished in the top 10 individually.

"It was a great weekend for us individually and as a team," head coach Cliff Toliver said. "Lance (Arviso) scored the way we anticipated him to score all season. We will certainly be able to build on this as we head into spring competition."

The Murray State rodeo was the fall season finale for the TSU rodeo team.

Begin with us . . . and finish with a great future ahead of you!

Register now! Spring semester begins January 9!

For more information, in Enterprise call 347-2623, in Ozark call 774-5113, at Ft. Rucker call 598-3438, in Mobile call 251-438-2816, or check out our website at www.eccc.edu.

ENTERPRISE-OZARK COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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COMMUNITY NEWS



The Elba Fire Department recently responded to this house fire on Martin Luther King Drive in Elba. While the damage does not appear bad on the outside of the structure, firefighters said a good deal of damage was sustained to the inside. During the winter months, it is especially important that residents keep a check on heaters, fireplaces, electrical blankets, etc.

Alabama Power offers holiday lighting and safety tips

Alabama Power offers tips on safety when using holiday decorations. The following holiday safety tips are part of Alabama Power's ongoing effort to promote safety around electricity.

- Install outdoor decorations away from power lines.
- Follow manufacturers' recommendations regarding the number of strands of lights that can be connected.
- Do not overload circuits. Plugging too many lights into one outlet or connecting several light strands can overload the circuit.
- Use only lights and decorations that carry Underwriters Laboratories (UL) approval.
- Use outdoor lights outside, and indoor lights indoors.

CITY

(Continued from Page One)

Jordan to finish out the current term of chief.

Spinners has agreed to close down its operation in Elba. The business is located on the square and will close by the end of the year. Mayor Grimes said the city attorney has worked it out with their attorney for the business to close at that time. A letter had been written to the District Attorney on December 1st indicating the owners had been informed that information had been received that they were violating the "gaming laws" of the state and if he (the owner) did not cease business the city would prosecute him.

The council voted to declare the property at the airport being used for Toledo Molding as surplus. This is a step necessary before transferring title to the land to the Elba Industrial Development Board.

"The thing I always enjoyed about D.A.R.E. was being able to help students," Blair said. "I have spent many hours in my office with teenagers crying because they got hooked on drugs. I want you (the students) to be the group to make the change for good."

He said it takes a mighty big person to stand up and do and say what is right, and if the community wants to change, it has to start with the young people.

Now, in his new position as a corrections officer at the Elba Work Release facility, Blair said he feels he has been offered a different opportunity to help

er, and the dogs are taken care of better."

Homyak is currently working out of a two-cage facility where the street department is located, so he cannot take any dogs from outside the Elba police jurisdiction until the new shelter is finished.

He said those looking for lost dogs or wishing to adopt should contact the Elba Police Department because he must escort them to the shelter located at the street department.

Normally, Homyak picks up dogs in Elba, and dogs are brought to him from all over the county, except from within Enterprise's jurisdiction.

Last year, Homyak said he picked up 428 dogs inside his Elba jurisdiction, and more than 600 from the county.

Homyak, who has been working in animal control for three and a half years, also helps find lost pets and handles animal cruelty cases and emergency situations.

"I go out of my way a lot," Homyak said. "I do my best to solve problems."

COPY SERVICE AVAILABLE AT THE ELBA CLIPPER

Clark Thomas's Enterprise
CHRISTMAS EVE - All theatres have ONE showing - 7:00 only

DECEMBER 18-19

I - MONA LISA SMILE (PG-13)
M-F 7 & 9:30 - S&S 2, 7 & 9:30
No Preen - No Wed. Night Elements

II - SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE (PG-13)
M-F 7 & 9:30 - S&S 2, 7 & 9:30
No Preen - No Wed. Night Elements

III - THE HAUNTED MANSION (PG)
M-F 7:15 - S&S 2 & 7:15
LOVE DON'T COST A THING (PG-13)
M-F 9:15 - S&S 9:15

IV - DR. SEUSS' THE CAT IN THE HAT (PG)
S&S 2:00 ONLY

STUCK ON YOU (PG-13)
M-F 7 & 9:30 - S&S 7 & 9:30

THE RETURN OF THE KING (PG-13)
Showing on 3 Screens: #1 & #3
M-F 7:00 - 9:00
S&S #1 - 1 & 7:00 - #3 - 8:00
No Preen - No Wed. Night Elements

THE LAST SAMURAI (R)
M-F 7:30 - S&S 2 & 7:30
No Preen - No Wed. Night Elements

III - BROTHERS BEAR (PG)
Sat & Sun - 2:00 ONLY

SAD SANTA (G)
S&S 2:00

LOVE: The Return of the King (PG-13)
M-F 8:00 - S&S 8:00
No Preen - No Wed. Night Elements

LTR.

(Continued from Page Three)

night of thanksgiving and remembrance of what the forefathers of this great nation had experienced through the intervention of our Almighty God in the forming of this great nation.

Dr. John Eldsmoe, Law Professor, Faulkner University, reminded us that the founding fathers recognized that it is the duty of our nation to acknowledge God and that they came to the new world for the freedom to worship God as God's Word commanded. He noted the Mayflower Compact contained therein the following: "in the Name of God, in the Presence of God, for the Glory of God and for the advancement of Christian Faith." This nation owes everything to the faith of its forefathers, who showed great courage and made monumental sacrifices so that God's truth can be shared and we can live in a nation where man's best chance for freedom reigns.

Mr. John Giles, President of the Alabama Christian Coalition, also spoke and said many polls have been taken and everywhere it is evident that the majority of the people in Alabama, indeed in this nation, feel that Alabama's Ten Commandments monument should not have been removed. He stated in contrast there is a statue of the goddess Themis in our Federal Judicial Building being protected by U.S. marshals while our Ten Commandments Monument had to be removed. He also said that our culture is impacting the church, and not vice versa, as statistics seem to indicate. He did charge us to educate ourselves. The need for that is so evident as in the series concerning Judge Roy Moore and the Ten Commandments monument. Erroneous reports that the monument was snuck in in the middle of the night shows how one small bit of misinformation can lead to so much destruction of an honorable man. The focus should not have been on Judge Roy Moore and his personhood but as was discussed in the 2003 Alabama Baptist State Convention in November - rather the focus should be on the freedom of religious expression and the public display of the Ten Commandments. Just as there are specialists in the field of medicine, there are specialists in the field of law, and even a liberal "constitutional" professor interviewed by O'Reilly of "Fox News" agreed and said

Alabama's Ten Commandments Monument had a legal right to be there.

Many of us do not know how to interpret the Constitution according to the way the founders framed it. Is it any wonder that we can be so easily misled to believing that a judge who went against a baseless ruling - (that hits at the very core of every Christian's being - the right to acknowledge God) - that judge is offensive? Rachel Scott could not deny her God and it cost her life, and Judge Roy Moore could not either.

No other state in the nation boasts of so many churches, yet we in this state have let a few powerful people make decisions not based on our Constitution and have let them take away our rights by condemning this individual. According to Martin Luther King Jr., "There are two types of laws: there are just laws and there are unjust laws... what is the difference between the two? ... an unjust law is a man-made code that is out of harmony with the moral law."

Some say the Ten Commandments Monument is just a rock, but then so were the twelve memorial stones God told Joshua to move from the middle of the Jordan River before the Battle of Jericho. God, however, thought a memorial was important enough to stop the Israelites who were ready to go to battle as found in the Book of Joshua, Chapter 4. It was important to God then that there be memorial stones of His blessings and guidance and I believe this Ten Commandments Monument is important to God now also as a reminder for this nation. In Hosea, Chapter 4, God has a charge against a nation where there is no acknowledgement of God. Is that where we are heading?

In the words of William Bradford, Governor of Plymouth Colony almost 400 years ago, "... thus from small beginning greater things are grown by His hand who made all things out of nothing and

gives being to all things that are, as one small candle may light a thousand so the light kindled here may show to many, yes in a sense our whole nation let the glorious Name of Jehovah have all the praise."

A small candle was lit in Alabama in the hot summer of 2003. Where will we go with it? Will He find us faithful? Praying for God's mercy in Alabama.

D. CREWS
323 N. Glendale St.
Geneva, AL 36340
334/684-3934

Congratulations!



Gary Allen
617A West Davis St.
Elba, AL 36323
334-897-2234



Alfa's Triple Hitter!

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EXPRESS YOUR VIEWS WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Weeks Time for Reliable Tires

SMOOTH RIDE FOR SUV'S PICKUPS & VANS

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COMMUNITY NEWS



The City of Elba held its annual Christmas dinner Thursday, Dec. 4, for city employees and their families. This annual event is held at the Recreation Center and offers the employees an opportunity to enjoy one another's fellowship outside of work. It also allows the city leaders to say thanks for all the hard work the employees endure throughout the year. Above, Will Moore and his daughter, Paige, were all smiles upon reaching the end of the food line while the picture to the left captures others still waiting to get their fixings of grilled chicken, green beans, baked potato, roll and pound cake covered with strawberries.

Happy Holidays

CHRISTMAS TIME IS COMING

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The Elba Clipper

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2 Sections, 30 Pages



Elba's 2003 Christmas Family
The Norris family
Patrick and Julie
with the triplets
Christen, Aaron and Brooklyn
age "almost 4"